

Andrew Jackson to Charles Pendleton Tutt, January 9, 1825, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO COLONEL CHARLES P. TUTT.

Washington, January 9, 1825.

D'r sir, your letter of the 4th and 6th, is Just recd. I thank you for the information communicated. I never had a doubt of the honour of some of my political enemies, but that they would attempt to disturb the repose of an innocent female in her declining years is a species of wickedness that I did not suppose would be attempted.

One thing I can assure you, whenever my enemies shall think it worth while to investigate my or the character of Mrs. J I fear not the result, I as well know how to defend my and her character as I have done the rights of my country, whenever it can be traced to a source worthy of notice. I am aware of the plan of my enemies, to endeavour to excite and provoke me. This cannot be done, untill calm reflection, convinces my Judgt that Justice requires attonement of the invaders of Female Character.¹

1 Jan. 9 Colonel Tutt wrote to Jackson from his home at Locust Hill, near Leesburg, Va., as follows: "I wrote to you on the 6th Inst. in consequence of information communicated to me by a most respectable Gentn. a friend of yours, who particularly advised me to do so, to guard you against the base attempt of your enemies, it was with great reluctance I did so, and nothing but a sense of duty, could have induced me to do any thing that would have caused you a moments uneasiness, since then I have [seen?] the Gentn. from Alexa. who made the communication to our mutual friend, and I [am] happy to state to you that it is true such papers are in the hands of an individual in Alexa. for such objects but he

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is himself uncertain as to the truth of them and is besides afraid to communicate or even to speak about them, so that it does not appear that there will be the vilianous attempt to injure you that I apprehended, at least I hope and believe there will not. it would be well however for your friends to keep a sharp look out, without their even intimating the least knowledge of the circumstance. I do not know when I was more irritated than when the circumstance was communicated to me. the very great regard and most exalted opinion I have ever entertained for Mrs. Jackson contributed to encrease my disgust at the base attempt."